

## **Homemade vs. Commercial Spray Mixtures**

This Bureau is frequently asked to advise growers in regard to certain prepared or ready mixed commercial spray materials, including both insecticides and fungicides. Many of these mixtures are good, and serve a useful purpose in pest control.

In the case of back yard gardens or other cases where only a small quantity of material is required, the grower is discouraged by the trouble of preparing his own spray mixtures. In such instances the prepared mixtures fill a decided need.

For the large grower however it may be more economical to prepare his own sprays, especially is this true of the common and well known Bordeaux mixtures. Copper sulphate and lump lime when purchased in large quantities are comparatively cheap and the detail of making the complete mixture fairly simple. The grower should always know just what materials are best for the purpose, the proportions and manner in which they are to be mixed. Many failures in pest control may be traced to spray material which was not properly prepared.

Growers are cautioned also about the purchase of new brands of spray materials without first satisfying themselves that they will give results as represented in the label. When in doubt write this department for information.

